

**ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for detecting an abnormality of a recorded signal of a recorder/player includes a plurality of recording/reproducing heads for recording/reproducing a signal onto/from a medium, and a determining portion for determining an abnormality of the recorded signal based on the signal reproduced by the recording/reproducing heads. While one recording/reproducing head records the signal of image and/or sound on the medium, the other recording/reproducing head reproduces the signal recorded by the recording/reproducing head. The determining portion determines the abnormality of the recorded signal by determining whether or not the signal reproduced from the medium is in a normal data format, or by determining whether or not an envelope of reproduced signals is greater than a predetermined level. Accordingly, when abnormality of recorded signal occurs due to a presence of foreign substances on the heads or from other problem sources, a user is immediately notified of such an abnormality.